

## KENT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, February 11, 2016  
Administration Building - Room 310

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Meeting called to order at 8:38 a.m. by Chair James R. Saalfeld.

Present: Commissioners Antor, Bolter, Brieve, Bulkowski, Chivis, Hennessy, Jones, Kallman, Koorndyk, Mast, Morgan, Ponstein, Shroll, Stek, Talen, Vander Molen, Vonk, Voorhees, Chair Saalfeld - 19.

Absent: None.

Invocation: Commissioner Stek gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### The Right Place, Inc.

Birgit Klohs, President & CEO, gave an update on the 2015 Annual Report (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk). The current three-year (2014-2016) strategic plan includes the creation of 5,500 jobs, \$183,000,000 in new payroll and \$390,000,000 in capital investment. By the end of 2015, they had reached 3,520 new or retained jobs, \$123,400,000 in new payroll and \$484,900,000 in capital investment. More information is available online at: [www.rightplace.org](http://www.rightplace.org).

(Commissioner Vander Molen left the meeting at this time.)

### PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Gerald Miller, 7937 Buccaneer Drive, Cascade Township - Vice Chair of the Kent Conservation District (KCD), explained what the KCD does and reviewed its 2015 Annual Report (copy of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk). It receives no funds from county, state or federal budgets. All of its finances come from contracts, grants, and fees for services, donations and sponsorships.
2. Peter D'Arienzo, new CEO of John Ball Zoo – He introduced himself and indicated that he will present a Zoo report in April.

### CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of the Minutes of January 28, 2016, meeting
- b) January 19 and February 2, 2016, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
(Reports of Claims and Allowances)

Motion by Commissioner Stek, seconded by Commissioner Shroll, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Antor, Morgan, Jones, Bolter, Stek, Ponstein, Voorhees, Kallman, Brieve, Mast, Hennessy, Talen, Bulkowski, Chivis, Koorndyk, Shroll, Chair Saalfeld – 18.

Nays: 0.

## RESOLUTIONS

### 2-11-16-5 – LABOR AGREEMENT: POLICE OFFICERS LABOR COUNCIL CAPTAINS/LIEUTENANTS / HUMAN RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Negotiating Committee recommends approval of a three-year labor contract with the Police Officers Labor Council Captains/Lieutenants, which represents 21 members; and

WHEREAS, wages will increase two percent annually in 2016, 2017 and 2018; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, employees' share of health care premiums will increase from 17.5 percent to 20 percent, and \$250 single/\$500 family deductibles will be added to the HMO plan. In 2018, the out-of-pocket maximum will increase by \$1,000 (with a corresponding reduction of \$1,000 in the prescription out-of-pocket maximum to maintain compliance with limits set forth under P.L. 111-148); and

WHEREAS, existing holiday banks will be maintained but no further additions will be permitted; and

WHEREAS, the pension plan employee contribution cap will increase from 8.5 percent of pay to 9.5 percent of pay effective January 1, 2017 (additional employee contributions to fund the Cost of Living Adjustment still apply); and

WHEREAS, the County may reopen regarding dual-tier vacation and paid time off upon resolution of these issues in the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM) and Kent County Deputy Sheriffs Association (KCDSA) units; and

WHEREAS, the County may reopen regarding replacement of the pension plan non-duty disability to an insured disability program upon resolution in the POAM and KCDSA units; and

WHEREAS, the total three-year increase to salary and benefit costs is \$246,690; and

WHEREAS, this item has been reviewed and recommended by the Legislative and Human Resources Committee and the Finance and Physical Resources Committee for approval by the Board of Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves a three-year labor agreement for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018, between the County of Kent and the Police Officers Labor Council Captains/Lieutenants.

Motion by Commissioner Kallman, seconded by Commissioner Shroll, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Antor, Morgan, Jones, Bolter, Stek, Ponstein, Voorhees, Kallman, Brieve, Mast, Hennessy, Talen, Bulkowski, Chivis, Koorndyk, Shroll, Chair Saalfeld – 18.

Nays: 0.

2-11-16-6 – ACCEPT THE FY2015 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AND BUDGET AMENDMENT  
/ SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division provides federal pass-through funds for homeland security programs; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the FY 2015 Homeland Security Grant Program is to prevent, deter, respond to, and recover from incidents of national significance, including but not limited to, threats and incidents of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, starting with grant year 2006, the Homeland Security Grant funding allotments were allocated on a regional basis. Kent County was placed into Region 6, which is part of a 13-county region. The fiduciary for the grants since 2006 has been the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC). WMSRDC has agreed to continue as the fiduciary for the grant; and

WHEREAS, the final document of the WMSRDC agreement was reviewed and approved by Corporate Counsel; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is September 1, 2015 to May 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, this item has been reviewed and recommended by the Finance and Physical Resources Committee for approval by the Board of Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates \$344,426 from the Michigan Department of State Police – Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division to the FY 2016 Sheriff Emergency Management Budget – Special Projects Fund, contingent upon award and execution of a contract.

Motion by Commissioner Bulkowski, seconded by Commissioner Voorhees, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Antor, Morgan, Jones, Bolter, Stek, Ponstein, Voorhees, Kallman, Brieve, Mast, Hennessy, Talen, Bulkowski, Chivis, Koorndyk, Shroll, Chair Saalfeld – 18.

Nays: 0.

2-11-16-7 – FY 2016 KENT COUNTY TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GRANT FROM THE MICHIGAN OFFICE  
OF HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANNING / SHERIFF

WHEREAS, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning has approved \$48,326 in federal funds for the Highway Safety Project “Kent County Traffic Enforcement” grant; and

WHEREAS, funding is contingent upon the availability of U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Safety Funds; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will be used to fund overtime and benefits for road patrol officers to achieve fatal and serious injury reductions from increased seat belt use and impaired driving enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is November 16, 2015 to September 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, this item has been reviewed and recommended by the Finance and Physical Resources Committee for approval by the Board of Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts a Kent County Traffic Enforcement grant from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the signature of all grant related documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby appropriates \$48,326 from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning to the FY 2016 Sheriff's Budget – Special Projects Fund, contingent upon award.

(Commissioner Shroll requested a roll call vote.)

Motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Koorndyk, that the resolution be adopted.

Motion carried:

Yeas: Vonk, Morgan, Jones, Bolter, Stek, Voorhees, Kallman, Brieve, Mast, Hennessy, Talen, Bulkowski, Chivis, Koorndyk, Shroll, Chair Saalfeld – 16.

Nays: Antor, Ponstein - 2.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### REPORTS

##### Airport

Commissioner Morgan: Construction has begun on the airport's consolidated checkpoint and market place. The estimated completion date on phase one is March 2017.

##### Community Mental Health Board

Commissioner Mast: Attended a conference in Kalamazoo held by the Mental Health Association Board. The Governor's 2017 budget calls for changes in the handling of managed care. network180 is looking at ways to help the developmentally disabled by conducting surveys and focus groups. There will be a special board meeting on April 4 and a public hearing on April 11.

##### Downtown Development Authority

Commissioner Talen: The Grand Rapids DDA has begun construction at Veterans Memorial Park. Authorized the CEO to enter into a contract for the Calder Plaza design work. The St. Cecilia Music Center is renovating to improve accessibility. Downtown Grand Rapids Inc. (DGRI) and the DDA have adopted performance measures. DGRI and the DDA are actively working at the state level on proposed changes to TIF legislation.

Administrator Delabbio reported that he has met with Chris Larson to discuss the commonalities that exist between the County and DGRI. This evening, they meet with legislators to discuss those items.

#### Lakeshore Regional Partners (LRP)

Commissioner Stek: The Lakeshore Regional Partners Executive Committee met on Tuesday. On Wednesday, they received the Governor's budget which has created some anxiety and conversation.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Agribusiness

Commissioner Antor: Apologized for missing the Agribusiness Work Session. Agribusiness is very important. The recent EPIC report on the Top Ten U.S. Cities with regard to quality of life revealed that nine out of those ten have active agricultural preservation programs. Agribusiness is a component of quality of life.

#### NACo Legislative Conference & Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation

Commissioner Ponstein: Will attend NACo's legislative conference in Washington, D.C. in late February. He is on NACo's Energy, Environment and Land Use Subcommittee and members will meet the director and staff of the Department of Energy.

Also, in February, he and Commissioner Chivis will host two fundraising events for the Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation. The funds will benefit music programs in the Grand Rapids Public Schools.

#### Walk for Warmth & Letter Supporting Large-Scale Commercial Dog Breeder Act

Commissioner Hennessy: Invited Commissioners to join her and participate in the annual Walk for Warmth Saturday, February 13, at 8:30 a.m., at the West Side Complex. The money raised provides heating assistance to low-income households in Kent County.


Also, there is a letter available for Commissioners' to sign showing support of a bill regarding large-scale commercial dog breeders. This legislation would require breeders to register with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and follow existing standards of care.


#### Chair Comments

Chair Saalfeld: The Officers' Compensation Commission (OCC) meets in February and March this year. The OCC recommends the local elected officials' compensation. The first meeting is Tuesday, February 16, at 4:00 p.m., if anyone is interested in speaking to the OCC. The Chair will attend the meeting to answer any questions.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:55 a.m., Commissioner Stek moved to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair, and to Thursday, February 25, 2016, Room 310, County Administration Building, at 8:30 a.m., for an Official Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Koorndyk. Motion carried.

  
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James R. Saalfeld, Chair

  
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Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk